

# Young women's chance to be heard

By **SUN REPORTER**

*RISE* is a new talk show on SABC 1 that aims to be a lifeline and tool that will see women take back their power.

It's hosted by four successful women in the entertainment industry – presenter Kgomotso Matsunyane, Soul City CEO Lebogang Ramafoko, actress and facilitator Khanyisile Mazibuko and performing artist Lebo Shikwambane.

The show tackles tough questions and involves women aged 15–24 on different issues.

It follows a campaign in which girls and young women are encouraged to set free their voices instead of suffering in silence at the hands of people who exploit them.

Lebogang said while there was evidence of a decline in HIV among young people, there was concern that the risk increased once young women left school.

“This is especially true of girls and women from disadvantaged backgrounds between the ages of 15-24.

“This show is a call to action for these young people to take ownership of their lives and rise to change them,” she said.

She added the show was also an opportunity to reveal young women's realities to other people to think about what needs to change to create a more caring, just and equal society in which young women can succeed.

Apart from the show, young women have been organised into Rise Young Women's Clubs across the country.

They are working to build a movement of support and change for themselves and other young women. The clubs are in areas most affected by HIV and where young women have little or no power.

■ **Catch *Rise* tonight on SABC1 at 6pm.**

The show is hosted by from left, Khanyisile Mazibuko, Lebogang Ramafoko, Kgomotso Matsunyane and Nyiko Shikwambane.

